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Department of State

TELEGRAM

POL 13-10-45

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ACTION: Amembassy MOSCOW

STATE

SUBJECT: JDL Demonstration

Following is an excerpt from Dept. press briefing
March 22:

Q: QUOTE -- Charles, the Soviet Government has often complained about American Government inefficiency in curbing demonstrations against its installations. Did they have a word about the police handling of the demonstration yesterday when 689 persons were reported arrested?

A: No, we have had no representations from the Soviet Embassy on these events over the weekend. I think, in fact, the police handled this very effectively, and I will repeat what I said last week when this subject first arose in ~~EMERGENCY~~ conjunction with another, that we see no way of equating this kind of private demonstration, particularly when it is peaceful, with the official violation of the premises of the American Embassy in

DRAFTED BY:

EUR/P:MWJerabek:pt

DRAFTING DATE:

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TEL. EXT.:

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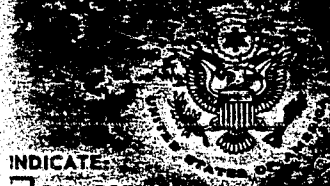
APPROVED BY:

EUR - Mr. Olser

CLEARANCES:

SOV - Mr. Dubs

S/PRS - Mr. Bray (in subs)



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2

Moscow of which we take an extremely grave view, and on which we are still awaiting a reply to the notes that Ambassador Beam delivered to the Soviet Foreign Ministry, and which Under Secretary Irwin handed Ambassador Dobrynin here.

Q. Has the State Department any view on the demonstration yesterday, apart from what you have just said?

A. None

UNQUOTE

ROGERS

END

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